

the Nebraska Research and Development Authority and the committee did make some amendments, but I don't believe that they amended it enough. And so I am introducing, if my bracket motion does not fail, a series of amendments that I think will make the bill better and will indeed truly benefit the economic development in Omaha and in the State of Nebraska. One of the...one of the articles put out in the Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce Profile was the strategies for building business, the direct marketing, the response, the program. And the first three chapters of the Economic Development Strategy by M. Ross Boyle, President, the gross strategies organization, describe Omaha's economic development opportunities. The fourth chapter provides ways in which the community might enhance its competitive posture and in the final chapter of the study Boyle spells out actions that must be taken to capitalize on the city's opportunities in product improvement efforts. And then chapter five discusses retention of existing...existing businesses and expansion of Omaha based establishments, new business formation and ways to attract new business to the area. And, in that area of business retention, most companies will close local operations due to market forces, internal organizational considerations and local business climate factors. LB 1241 will not address any of these. And Boyle said nothing can be done about the first two reasons, however, in order to reduce business climate generated losses, Omaha must work hard to maintain a competitive business environment and that includes all of Omaha. And so Boyle recommends that the Chamber expand its computer-based business establishment file to include all primary business establishments in the metropolitan assessment...or, excuse me, the metropolitan statistical analysis that employ at least 20 persons and regularly updated data on business climate concerns. Chamber, county and city officials should reinstitute a full business visitation program. LB 1241 does not address that. The Chamber expands its annual survey of business establishments in the MSA to include trend information on business climate issues. And, fourth, Chamber, city and Douglas, Sarpy and Washington County officials should set up a formal system for researching and responding to specific problems of local firms. Now to promote business expansion in the area, the community must help and they must help local businesses interested in expanding their markets. The state cannot do everything and so they encourage the local community to help those businesses interested in expanding their markets and to help growing businesses to expand here. Businesses need assistance in capturing government procurement